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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: Ira C. Felkner, et al §  
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Conf. No.: Not Yet Assigned § Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
§  
Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned § Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
§  
Filing Date: November 24, 2003 § Attorney Docket No.: 61-2U6  
§

Title: METHODS OF EVALUATING STERILIZATION PROCEDURES USING A  
BIOLOGICAL INDICATOR

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER**  
**37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1) AND §1.97(e)(1)**

The documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO/SB/08A may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within the three months of the filing date of this patent application.

As this application is filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the cited U.S. patent documents are not included, although the applicant shall provide copies for the Examiner's convenience upon request. Copies of the seven cited non-patent publications are enclosed.

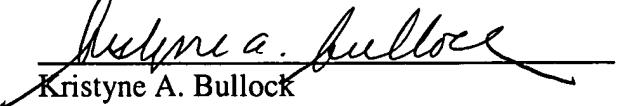
No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017 (Billing No. 200061.0025).

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

Ira C. Felkner, et al

24 November 2003  
(Date)

  
Kristyne A. Bullock  
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)  
Registration No. 42,371  
Direct Dial: 215-965-1348  
E-Mail: kbullock@akingump.com

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP  
One Commerce Square  
2005 Market Street, Suite 2200  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
Telephone No.: 215-965-1200  
Fax No.: 215-965-1210

KAB:krh  
Enclosures

<b>Form PTO/SB/08A</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b> <b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		<b>Application Number</b>	Not Yet Assigned
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		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	I. Cecil Felkner et al.
		<b>Group Art Unit</b>	Not Yet Assigned
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	2
		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	61-2U6

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>				
Exr Initials	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Inventor or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY
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Sheet	2	of	2	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>
61-2U6				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Exr Initials	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Inventor or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY	
	Country Code	Number	Kind Code (if known)			
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OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Exr Initials	Include Name of first Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (where appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date (in parentheses). If a book, also include publisher and city and/or county where published.	T <sub>1</sub>
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	Shahamat, M. <i>et al.</i> "Bacterial Retention By Membrane Filters"; Abstract for American Society for Microbiology Meeting, Chicago, IL., One Page, (June 1, 1999).	
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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